

JAN 28 1985

Dr. Phyllis Garnett, Director
Arkansas Department of Pollution
Control and Ecology
8001 National Drive
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209

Dear Dr. Garnett:

We have received and reviewed the 1984 revision of the Arkansas Water Quality Standards and its attachments transmitted by your November 28, 1984 letter. I am pleased to inform you that I am approving the standards in accordance with the provisions of Section 303(c) of the Clean Water Act and the requirements of the November 28, 1983, Water Quality Standards Regulation (40 CFR Part 131). As discussed with your staff, the approval of these standards include several "Required Actions" which must be completed prior to the public hearing for the next triennial revision. Furthermore, these required actions must appear as elements of the State's annual workplan. A list of the required actions is enclosed. Also, enclosed is a list of "Recommended Actions" that were suggested during the Federal review process by EPA and select agencies of the Department of Interior. These "Recommended Actions" are offered as suggestions to improve or expand the Arkansas Water Quality Standards.

I wish to express our appreciation for the cooperation and understanding you and your staff have given EPA during the review and revision process. I believe working closely together on this past revision has been mutually beneficial and I look forward to working with you during the upcoming triennial review.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Myron O. Knudson

Myron O. Knudson
Director, Water Management Division, 6W

Enclosures

6W-QT:Lazorchak:X2627:at:12/31/84 JL-1559

6W-QT Neleigh <i>DW 7/21</i>	6W-QS Champagne <i>LC 1/21</i>	6W-Q Elliott <i>1/21</i>	6W-P Hanneschlager <i>1/25</i>
6W-E Hartung <i>DKA 1/25</i>	6AW-P Dyer <i>1/25</i>	6ES-F Spotts <i>1/25</i>	6W-S Cabra <i>1/25</i>
			6ES-SA Holman <i>1/25</i>

1/25/85

6ORC *1/25* 6W-G
Chandler Hoppers *1/25*
1/25/85
Anadromous
+ anadromous
+ trout fishing,
see JKC 10/5/85
1/25

cc: Bohme, 6W-PM
Chandler, 60RC
Crane, 6W-G
Diaz-Costa, 6W-EC
Dyer, 6AW-P
Humke, 6W-PI
Kirkland, 6ES-FT
Norris, 6W-SP
Parrish, 6ES-SA
Pendergast, 6W-PI
Donald L. Libbey, Bureau of Land Management
Curtis B. James, Fish and Wildlife Service
Donald P. Blasko, Bureau of Mines
E.E. Gann, U.S.G.S.
*Keith Yarbrough, National Parks Service
Administrator, Office of Surface Mining.

REQUIRED ACTIONS

1. As part of the next CPP update, submit to EPA Region 6, for approval, methods for implementing the Antidegradation Policy.
2. By the end of FY 85, submit to EPA Region 6, for approval, methods for implementing the variance and short term Activity Authorization Sections 4(H) and (I) of the standards. In particular, both EPA Headquarters and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service request that short term activities and projects be coordinated through the public review process. Guidance for such procedures can be found in the Water Quality Standards Handbook, page 1-9.
3. By the end of FY 85, submit for approval by EPA Region 6, procedures for performing use attainability studies and an analyses of such data in determining attainable uses.
4. By the end of FY 85, submit to EPA for approval, methods by which the State intends to regulate point and nonpoint sources of toxic pollutants on water quality limited segments based upon narrative and specific LC50 standards.
5. Before the next triennial revision, complete use attainability studies on the following streams and lakes:

1. SWEPCO Lake (See comments in EPA's Jan. 10, 1985 letter)
2. Coffee Creek (See comments in EPA's Jan. 11, 1985 letter)
3. Unnamed Ditch to Bayou Macon
4. Black Pond Slough
5. Canal 19
6. King Bayou Ditch
7. Whitemans Creek and Little Bay Ditch
8. Flat Branch Creek
9. Lick Creek
10. Godfrey Creek
11. Stone Dam Creek
11. Sulphur Creek
13. Mill Creek
14. Big Branch Creek
15. Railroad Hollow Ditch

Please provide a tentative schedule by the end of FY 85 as to when each of these will be completed and available for EPA approval. Furthermore, before each use attainability study is initiated, submit to EPA the experimental design and/or work plan for our review and approval.

6. By the end of FY 85, submit factual information supporting the view that trout did not exist in Arkansas until the Federal Government began stocking operations and that naturally occurring conditions were not and are not conducive to trout propagation.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. Consider setting a numerical limit for color that is compatible with other States on all segments designated as public water supplies.
2. Please review our previous comments on the pH standard concerning the loopholes in the language.
3. The Water Resources Division, Arkansas District, U.S.G.S. felt the Q7-10 definition would be better if it read as follows:

"The 7-day 10-year low flow (Q7-10) is the discharge at 10-year recurrence interval taken from a frequency curve of annual values of the lowest mean discharge for 7 consecutive days (the 7-day low flow). The 7-day low flow at intervals averaging 10 years in length; or the probability is 1/10 that the 7-day low flow in any one year will be less than the 7-day 10-year low flow (From: U.S. Geological Survey Surface Water Branch Technical Memorandum No. 79.06)."
4. The Office of Surface Mining, Denver, has suggested that specific standards (Cl, SO₄, TDS) be included for the Mulberry and Petit Jean Rivers, as these are high quality waters located in coal mining areas.